

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (cancelled)

Claim 2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (cancelled)

Claim 4 (cancelled)

Claim 5 (cancelled)

Claim 6 (cancelled)

Claim 7 (cancelled)

Claim 8 (cancelled)

Claim 9 (cancelled)

Claim 10 (currently amended): An appliance for material separation having a container (10), which comprises at least one sedimentation chamber (12) for accepting and sedimenting a material, which is bounded at one end by a base (14) which has an opening (16) for evacuating a sedimented material, a flow device for supplying a washing ~~fluid~~ liquid being provided in the container (10), characterized in that

- the opening (16) in the base (14) of the sedimentation chamber (12) is configured as a gap by means of which a continuous sediment film can be generated during the evacuation of the sedimented material, and

- the flow device comprises at least one duct (18, 20), which is arranged in a region of the outlet of the sediment film from the gap and is configured for the transverse approach flow and through-flow of the washing liquid through the sediment film, with the flow onto and

through the film taking place at an acute or right angle to the sediment film.

Claim 11 (original): The appliance as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that the gap in the base (14) of the sedimentation chamber (12) has an annular configuration in order to form an annular sediment film.

Claim 12 (currently amended): ~~The appliance as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that~~ An appliance for material separation having a container (10), which comprises at least one sedimentation chamber (12) for accepting and sedimenting a material, which is bounded at one end by a base (14) which has an opening (16) for evacuating a sedimented material, a flow device for supplying a washing liquid being provided in the container (10), characterized in that

- the opening (16) in the base (14) of the sedimentation chamber (12) is configured as a gap by means of which a continuous sediment film can be generated during the evacuation of the sedimented material, and

- the flow device comprises at least one duct (18, 20), which is arranged in a region of the outlet of the sediment film from the gap and is configured for the approach flow of the washing liquid through the sediment film, the gap in the base (14) of the sedimentation chamber (12) having an annular configuration in order to form an annular sediment film, and wherein an inner duct (20) is arranged as feed duct within the annular sediment film and in that the flow device has an annular outer duct (18) as evacuation duct, which surrounds the annular sediment film and is configured for evacuating the washing liquid which flows through the sediment film.

Claim 13 (currently amended): ~~The appliance is claimed in claim 11, characterized in that~~ An appliance for material separation having a container (10), which comprises at least

one sedimentation chamber (12) for accepting and sedimenting a material, which is bounded at one end by a base (14) which has an opening (16) for evacuating a sedimented material, a flow device for supplying a washing liquid being provided in the container (10), characterized in that

- the opening (16) in the base (14) of the sedimentation chamber (12) is configured as a gap by means of which a continuous sediment film can be generated during the evacuation of the sedimented material, and

- the flow device comprises at least one duct (18, 20), which is arranged in a region of the outlet of the sediment film from the gap and is configured for the approach flow of the washing liquid through the sediment film, the gap in the base (14) of the sedimentation chamber (12) having an annular configuration in order to form an annular sediment film and wherein an outer duct (18) is configured as an annular feed duct ~~an~~ which surrounds the annular sediment film, and in that an inner duct (20) is arranged as evacuation duct within the annular sediment film and is configured for evacuating the washing liquid which flows through the sediment film.

Claim 14 (previously amended): The appliance as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that a plurality of sedimentation chambers (12) are arranged in cascade one above the other in a container (10).

Claim 15 (currently amended): ~~The appliance as claimed in claim 14, characterized in that~~ An appliance for material separation having a container (10), which comprises at least one sedimentation chamber (12) for accepting and sedimenting a material, which is bounded at one end by a base (14) which has an opening (16) for evacuating a sedimented material, a flow device for supplying a washing liquid being provided in the container (10),

characterized in that

- the opening (16) in the base (14) of the sedimentation chamber (12) is configured as a gap by means of which a continuous sediment film can be generated during the evacuation of the sedimented material, and

- the flow device comprises at least one duct (18, 20), which is arranged in a region of the outlet of the sediment film from the gap and is configured for the approach flow of the washing liquid through the sediment film, and a plurality of sedimentation chambers (12) arranged in cascade one above another in the container (1), and wherein the evacuation duct of a sedimentation chamber (12) has a conduit connection to the feed duct of a sedimentation chamber (12) upstream in the sedimentation direction, and in that the gap (16) of a sedimentation chamber (12) is arranged immediately above the downstream sedimentation chamber (12) in the sedimentation direction.

Claim 16 (previously amended): The appliance as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that the base (14) of the sedimentation chamber (12) is configured as a funnel shape toward the gap (16).

Claim 17 (previously amended): The appliance as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that the sedimentation chamber (12) has a rotationally symmetrical configuration relative to a center line, and in that the sedimentation chamber (12) has at least two annular wall elements (22, 25; 24, 28), of which at least one wall element (22, 25; 24, 28) is configured conically relative to the center line.

Claim 18 (currently amended): ~~The appliance as claimed in claim 17, characterized in that~~ An appliance for material separation having a container (10), which comprises at least one sedimentation chamber (12) for accepting and sedimenting a material, which is

bounded at one end by a base (14) which has an opening (16) for evacuating a sedimented material, a flow device for supplying a washing liquid being provided in the container (10), characterized in that

- the opening (16) in the base (14) of the sedimentation chamber (12) is configured as a gap by means of which a continuous sediment film can be generated during the evacuation of the sedimented material, and

- the flow device comprises at least one duct (18, 20), which is arranged in a region of the outlet of the sediment film from the gap and is configured for the approach flow of the washing liquid through the sediment film, the sedimentation chamber (12) having a rotational symmetrical configuration relative to a center line, the sedimentation chamber (12) of at least two annular wall elements (22, 25; 24, 28), of which at least one wall element (22, 25; 24, 28) is configured conically relative to the center line, and wherein a stand (26) is provided which is arranged parallel to and, in particular, coaxial with the center line, and in that at least one radially inwardly located wall element (25; 28) of the sedimentation chamber (12) is fastened to the stand (26).

Claim 19 (original): The appliance as claimed in claim 18, characterized in that the stand (26) is supported so that it can be moved relative to the container (10).

Claim 20 (original): The appliance as claimed in claim 19, characterized in that the stand (26) is rotatably supported and is rotationally driven by a motor.

Claim 21 (previously amended): The appliance as claimed in claim 18, characterized in that the stand (26) can be displaced axially.

Claim 22 (cancelled)

Claim 23 (previously amended): The appliance as claimed in claim 10, characterized

in that the container (10) has an essentially cylindrical configuration relative to a center line.

Claim 24 (previously amended): The appliance as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that a base region (32) of the container (10) has a conical configuration and is provided with a central drain (34) and an annular feed (36) for the washing liquid.

Claim 25 (cancelled)

Claim 26 (cancelled)

Claim 27 (previously amended): The appliance as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that the gap is configured between two boundary walls (52, 54), of which a first boundary wall (52) is longer than the second boundary wall (54).